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DIGITAL
EDITION

SEAN
LEWIS

STEPHEN
SEGOVIA



SCORCHED[®]

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EDITION

SEAN
LEWIS

STEPHEN
SEGOVIA



SCORCHED[®]



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PREVIOUSLY IN *THE SCORCHED*

As the battle with the Sin Devourers rages on, the history between Medieval Spawn and the Plague is revealed to be a lot older than the team first realized. Exposing Medieval's true reasons for joining the team.

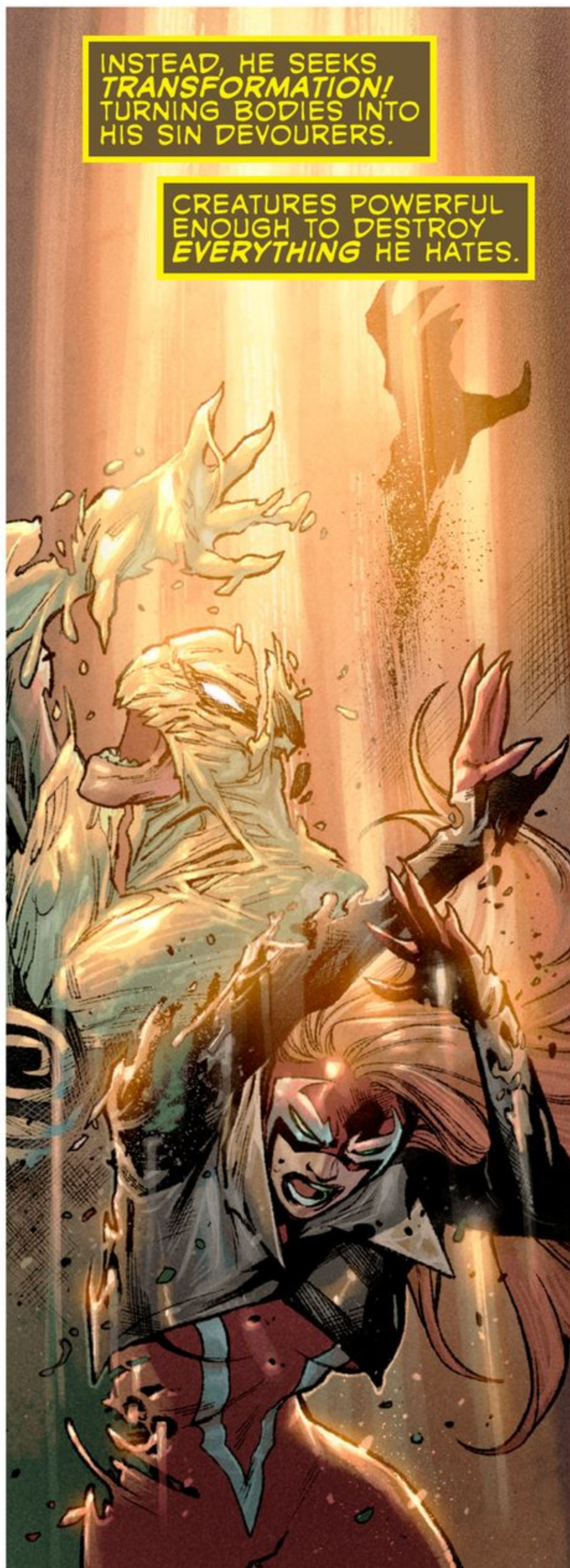


A WAR IS BEING
PLAYED OUT.
CONTROLLED BY
MANY COMPETING
ARCHITECTS. THIS ONE
HAS MASTERED
ALCHEMY -- AND
HE'LL SUBVERT THOSE
THAT GET IN HIS WAY.



HE'S NOT WANTING
TO TURN METALS INTO
GOLD, THAT WOULD
BE POINTLESS.

SOON, MY
FRIENDS.



INSTEAD, HE SEEKS
TRANSFORMATION!
TURNING BODIES INTO
HIS SIN DEVOURERS.

CREATURES POWERFUL
ENOUGH TO DESTROY
EVERYTHING HE HATES.

HE KNOWS HIS SCIENCE WON'T REPLACE THEIR POWER OF RELIGION, BUT HE CAN MELD WITH IT. THEN THE GODS AND MONSTERS CONTAMINATING EARTH CAN BE PURGED FROM OUR EXISTENCE.

THEIR EXILE WILL FINALLY ALLOW THE HUMAN RACE TO LIVE THEIR LIVES FREE FROM INTERFERENCE AND THEIR PERSUASIONS.

NOW EACH OF THESE MECH CREATURES, ALL WHO HAVE LOST FAMILY MEMBERS TO THE ACTIONS OF THE HELLSPAWN, SERVE TO ERADICATE THEIR ENEMIES.

BECAUSE THOSE LOVED ONES WERE MERE COLLATERAL DAMAGE FROM BATTLES WITH HELL'S ARMY.

COMMENCE LIQUID DISSECTION.

BEGIN AUTOPSY TO AFFIRM THEIR CHEMICAL CONSTRUCT.

ELECTRO-SHOCKS BLAST INTO THE CORE OF THEIR PRISONERS.





SHOCKS THAT
SEND GUNSLINGER
REELING INTO THE
DEPTHS OF HIS
OWN MIND.



IMAGINING WHAT
HE BELIEVES
SPAWN WILL DO.
AL LOCKED THE
'DEAD ZONES'.
PENNED IN
DEMONS UNTIL
THEY WERE READY
TO OBEY HIM.



EXPOSING THE
SCORCHED MEMBERS,
MAKING THEM HUMAN
ONCE AGAIN.



AS A HUMAN, JAVIER SEES SPAWN
LIKE THE RANCHERS AND LAND MEN
HE KNEW FROM HIS OWN TIME.
THOSE WHO ALWAYS THOUGHT THEY
WERE **SUPERIOR** TO EVERYONE.

WHO LORDED OVER
POOR TENANT FARMERS
BECAUSE THEY COULD.

TO JAVIER, SPAWN WASN'T FIGHTING
AGAINST A WAR--HE WAS BUILDING
HIS OWN EMPIRE.



LOOK AT HIM, SEARCHING FOR SOME SANITY TO HOLD ONTO.

WHEN I WAS A BOY IN CHURCH, THEY TOLD US TO FIND **LIGHT** IN THE DARKNESS. THEY WERE WRONG, I RECENTLY REALIZED -- FOR SURVIVAL I NEED TO EMBRACE DARKNESS IN THE LIGHT.

THE BLACK SOUL INSIDE EACH GOOD PERSON.



YOU SEE, OUR ENEMY WILL CREATE THEIR CULTS. BUILD ARMIES. THEN **FORCE** US TO DO THEIR WILL.



PITTING US AT WAR AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.



I TRIED WARNING OUR GOVERNMENTS.

I TOLD THEM TO FORGET THEIR PARTISAN FIGHTING AND FOCUS ON A **BIGGER** THREAT. THEY IGNORED ME -- SO, I CREATED **PROJECT 'K'**.



YOUR GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE LISTENED, SENATOR.

OUR OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES AREN'T BUILT LIKE THAT. THEY RARELY MOVE FAST, IT'S NOT GOOD FOR THEIR CAREERS. THE MONIES THEY DID ALLOCATE TO YOU WASN'T MEANT TO **START A WAR.**



YOU SAID IT WAS GOING TO PREVENT ONE.

YOU THINK YOU CAN GET RID OF SPAWN WITHOUT A WAR? THAT HE'LL STOP WILLINGLY?

HE ABANDONED HIS TEAM.

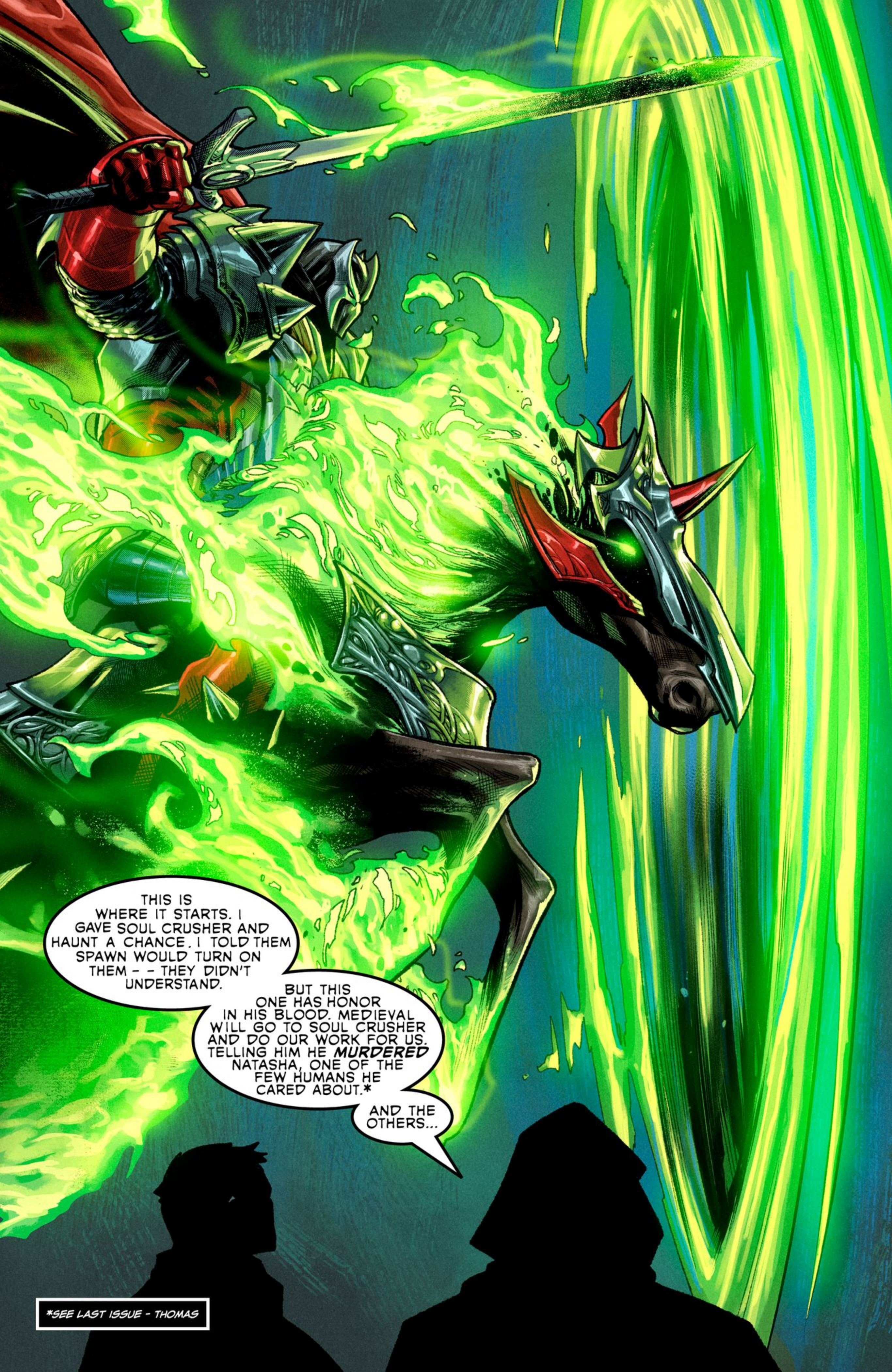
HE DIDN'T ABANDON ANYONE, HE HAS A STRATEGY! HE LEFT TO **INITIATE IT!**



TO WHAT END?



TO DOMINATE EARTH. THAT'S WHY I CAN'T KILL HIS TEAM, WE NEED THEM. WE NEED TO TURN THEM AGAINST SPAWN.



THIS IS
WHERE IT STARTS. I
GAVE SOUL CRUSHER AND
HAUNT A CHANCE. I TOLD THEM
SPAWN WOULD TURN ON
THEM - - THEY DIDN'T
UNDERSTAND.

BUT THIS
ONE HAS HONOR
IN HIS BLOOD. MEDIEVAL
WILL GO TO SOUL CRUSHER
AND DO OUR WORK FOR US.
TELLING HIM HE **MURDERED**
NATASHA, ONE OF THE
FEW HUMANS HE
CARED ABOUT.*

AND THE
OTHERS...

"...WE'RE IN THEIR HEADS, TOO."

THE PLAN WAS ALWAYS QUITE SIMPLE. CAPTURE A HELLSPAWN THEN HAVE IT **SCANNED**. IDENTIFY WHO THEY MIGHT BE, THEN CREATE ALTERNATE MEMORIES THEY COULD EXPLOIT.

LIKE THIS TEAM'S CAPTAIN, SHE-SPAWN. ONE DAY SHE WILL BECOME KNOWN AS "PRIEST", BUT THE NAME SHE WANTS NO ONE TO KNOW SHE IS CALLED IS...



MOM.

BABY, ARE YOU SAFE?!

NO, MY DEAR JESSICA, WE'LL **NEVER** BE SAFE, NOT FOR A SINGLE DAY, NOT WHILE YOU LIVE THE LIFE YOU'VE CHOSEN. YOUR DAUGHTER AND I WILL BE TARGETS EVERY DAY! AND IT'LL ONLY STOP WHEN THEY **MURDER** BOTH OF US.

OUR BLOOD WILL BE ON YOUR HANDS.

IT'S ALL SHE LIVES FOR AND THE ONE THING SHE'S TRYING TO **KEEP** HIDDEN.





THE AGENT HAUNT IS A DIFFERENT SPECIMEN. THE SOULS OF TWO MEN RESIDE IN HIS ONE BODY. HIS PSYCHOSIS WILL NEED A DIFFERENT PATHWAY.

HIS STATUS IS HIS BODY HAS BEEN POISONED, INFECTED BY A WOMAN NAMED LYDIA. A WOMAN HE ONCE LOVED...



UNTIL SHE *BETRAYED* HIM.



CONTINUE DRAINING HIS BLOOD. HE'S NOT A HELLSPAWN BUT HIS D.N.A. MAY STILL BE OF USE TO US.

BECAUSE OF THE POISON, THE EXTRACTION MIGHT KILL HIM.

I'LL TAKE THAT CHANCE.

HOW'S GUNSLINGER HOLDING UP?

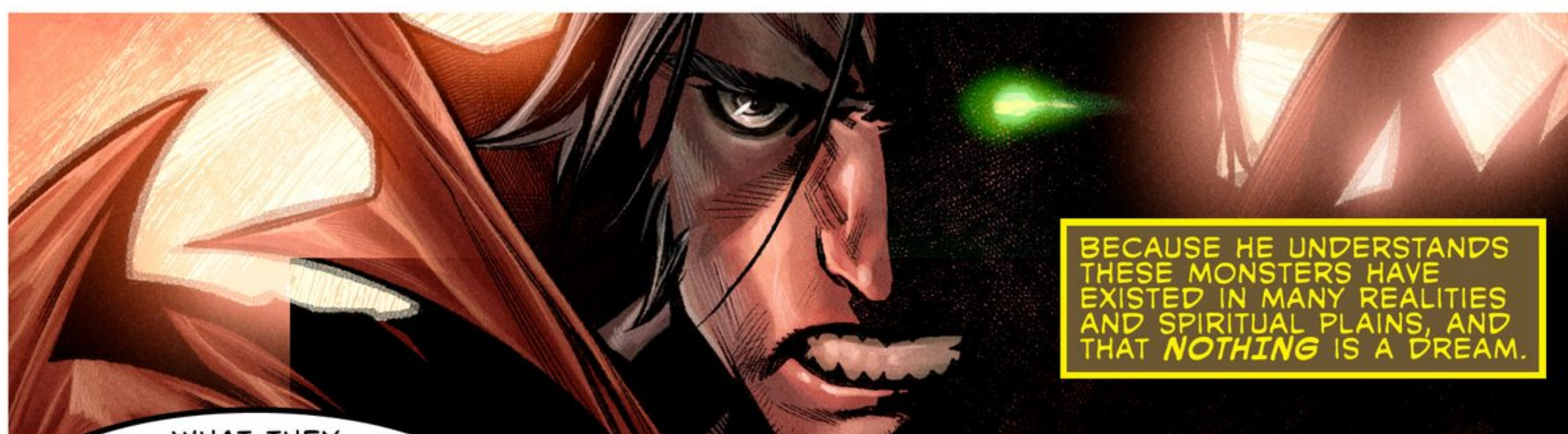


HE ISN'T.

THE DREAM GUNSLINGER IS TRAPPED IN HAS CONSUMED HIM.



"THE BUYER", CAN'T MENTALLY HAVE HIM GO TOO FAR.



BECAUSE HE UNDERSTANDS THESE MONSTERS HAVE EXISTED IN MANY REALITIES AND SPIRITUAL PLAINS, AND THAT **NOTHING** IS A DREAM.



WHAT THEY SEE IN THEIR HEADS, SENATOR, IS BUT ANOTHER POSSIBILITY, A REALITY INTO WHAT THEIR FUTURES MIGHT HOLD.

SO, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SEE THE FUTURE BEFORE IT HAPPENS?





BUT NOW, HIS
BLINDING INTENSITY
TO SAVE ALL,
MANIFESTS ITSELF
IN PHYSICAL FORM.



HE'S
CHOKING
HIMSELF!

BECAUSE,
IN THAT REALITY,
FOR THE FIRST TIME
HE **DOESN'T** WIN.





DO YOU
KNOW THE TRAUMA
THAT CAUSES TO THE HUMAN
PSYCHE? KNOWING THAT WHEN
IT MATTERS MOST, WHEN THE
WEIGHT OF YOUR ENTIRE EXISTENCE
IS SITTING SQUARELY ON YOUR
SHOULDERS...YOU **WEREN'T**
GOOD ENOUGH!

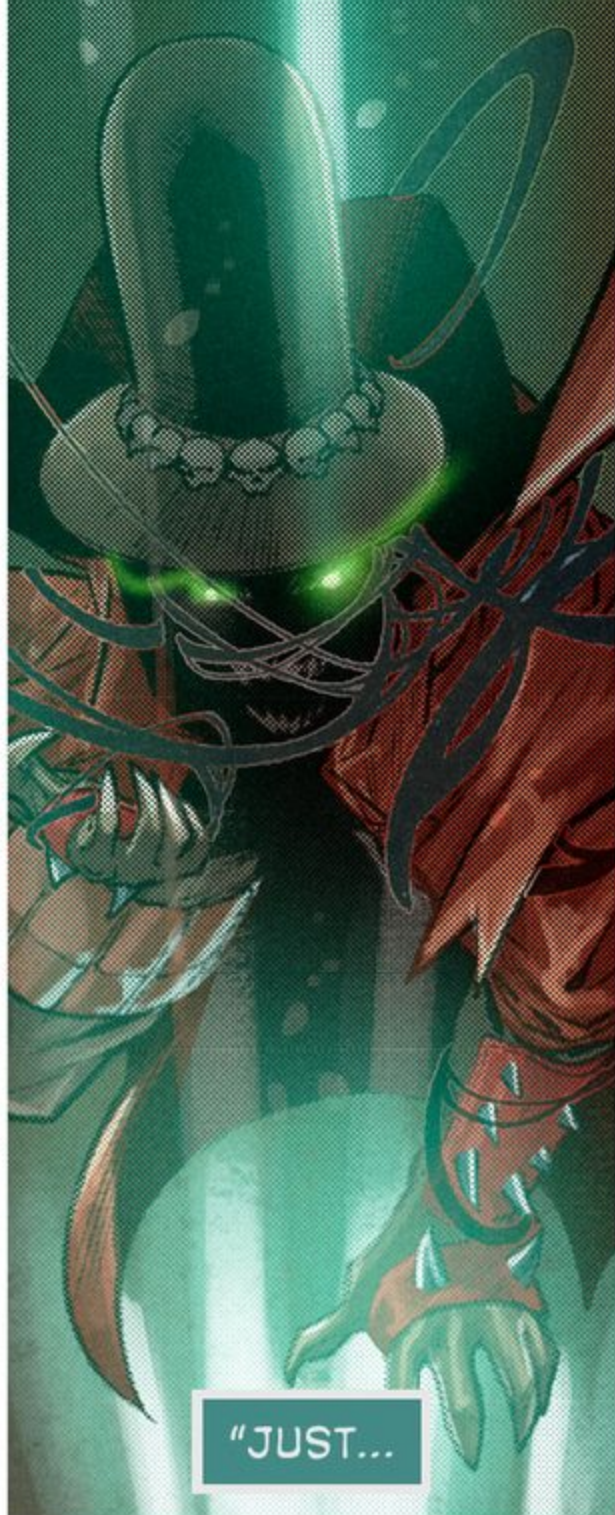
AND
THAT FAILURE IS
CRUSHING!

MY GOAL
IS TO LEARN FROM
THOSE DEFEATS, SO I
WON'T **REPLICATE** THEIR
MISTAKES. GUNSLINGER MAY
NOT KNOW HOW TO DEFEAT A
POWER-MAD SPAWN, BUT I **WILL...!**
I'LL NEVER LET ANOTHER LORD OVER
ME, NOT AFTER THE WAY GOD
TREATED ME! I SACRIFICED MY
EYES AND AN ARM FOR HIM,
AND HE IGNORED ME JUST
LIKE YOUR FELLOW
POLITICIANS.

BUT NOW
I PROUDLY SAY MY
NAME, I AM...
THE CURSE!

SOON, EVERYONE WILL
FEEL THE WRATH OF
THAT WORD!





"JUST..."



"...LIKE..."



"...THIS
COWBOY."



HE MAY
SEE ME AS
AN ENEMY, BUT
I'M HIS PATHWAY
TO **SALVATION**.

THE
SOONER
HE UNDERSTANDS
THAT, THE SOONER
HIS SOUL CAN
BE SAVED.



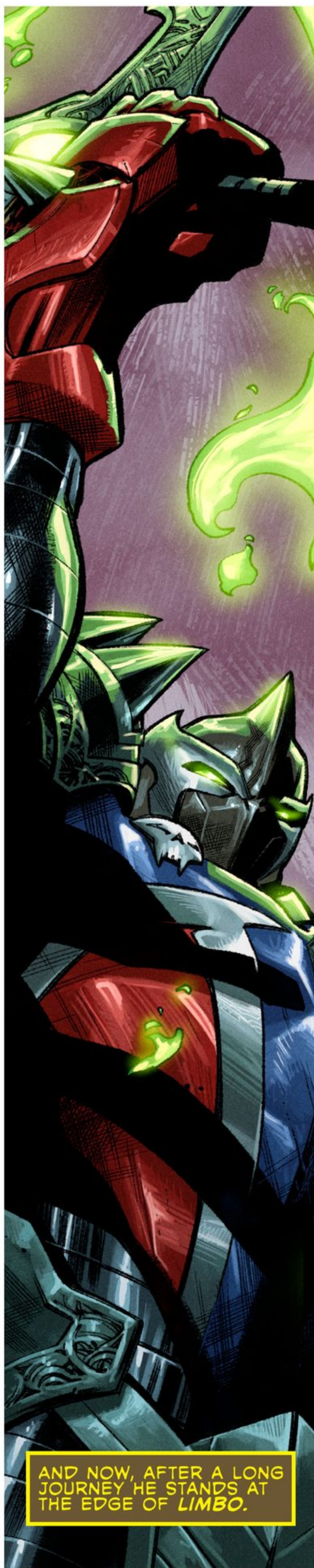
IF YOU
LET THEM LIVE,
WON'T THEY
TRY AND KILL
YOU?

I'M SURE THEY WILL, THEY
MIGHT EVEN SUCCEED, BUT NOT
IF THEY'VE ALL BEEN BANISHED TO HELL.
THEY NOW HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE;
STOP ME OR STOP SPAWN. HIS
DARKNESS IS MUCH BIGGER
THAN MINE.

"I'M BETTING THEY'LL
DO THE RIGHT AND
HONORABLE THING."

HONOR. IT'S A CODE
MEDIEVAL HAS TRIED
TO LIVE BY.

BUT THE CHURCH TAUGHT
HIM THAT YOU CANNOT
TRUST EVERY MAN, EVEN
MEN OF THE CLOTH.
SOME SOULS ARE
BEYOND REDEMPTION.
TO THINK OTHERWISE
WOULD BE FATAL.



AND NOW, AFTER A LONG
JOURNEY HE STANDS AT
THE EDGE OF **LIMBO**.



ITS FORTIFIED GATES,
INVISIBLE TO OUR
EYES, STAND TALL. BUT
HE'LL NOT BE DENIED.



HE HAS COME
TO DELIVER
A **MESSAGE!**

AND IS PREPARED TO
FACE THE CONSEQUENCES
IF HE FAILS IN THAT QUEST.

BEFORE HIM IS THE
'*CROSS OF ETERNITY*',
THE DOORWAY HE
NEEDS TO ENTER.

EVENTS OF THE PAST
24 HOURS WEIGH
HEAVY ON HIS MIND AS
HE STEPS FORWARD...

WITH GUILT
THAT WILL BE
WEAPONIZED
AGAINST HIM.



FORCING HIM TO TRY
AND RATIONALIZE WHY
HE WOULD SAVE A YOUNG
WOMAN NAMED NATASHA.

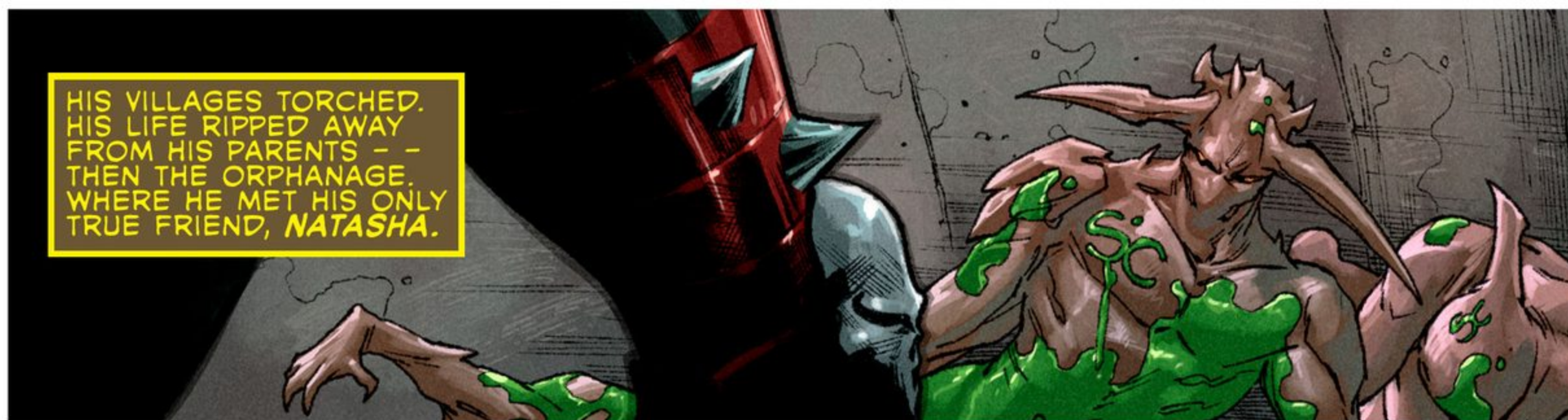
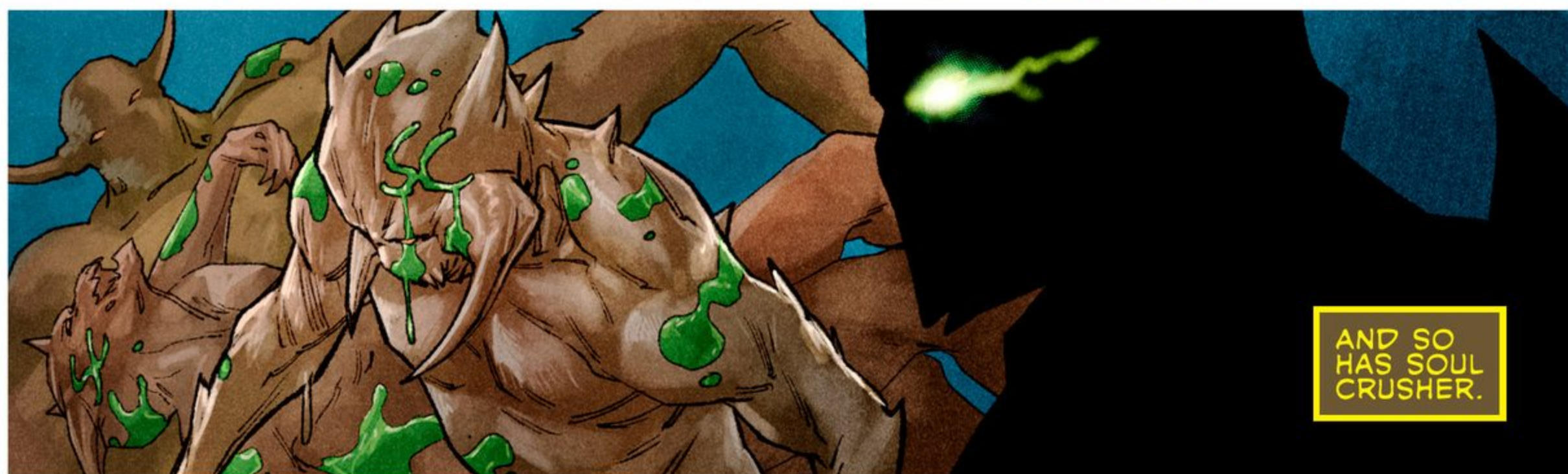
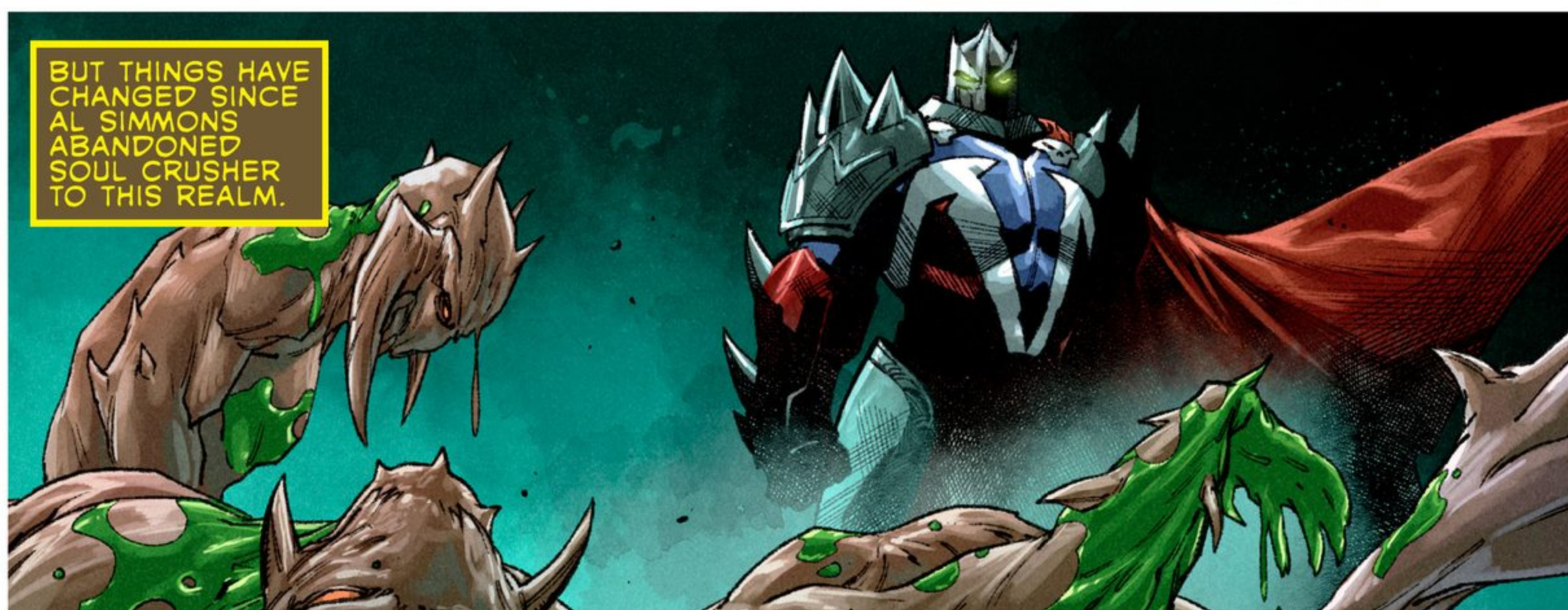
ONLY TO USE HIS
SWORD TO SPLIT
HER FLESH.*

HE IS AT WAR,
ONE WHICH HE
MUST WIN. BUT
DOES THE
END JUSTIFY
THE MEANS?

BECAUSE IF YOU
ARE DISHONORED
IN ACHIEVING
YOUR VICTORY...
DID YOU FAIL?

SOUL CRUSHER,
SHOW YOURSELF! WE
NEED TO TALK!

*SEE LAST ISSUE - THOMAS



Soul Crusher is King
of Limbo.

WHAT DO YOU
SUPPOSE THAT
KIND OF LOSS
DOES TO A MAN?

AN IMPRISONED
HELLISH GIANT
HOLDS THAT
ANSWER:

HE'S KILLING
US. ALL OF US! FOR
PRACTICE.

PRACTICE
FOR WHAT?

PRACTICE FOR
YOU!!



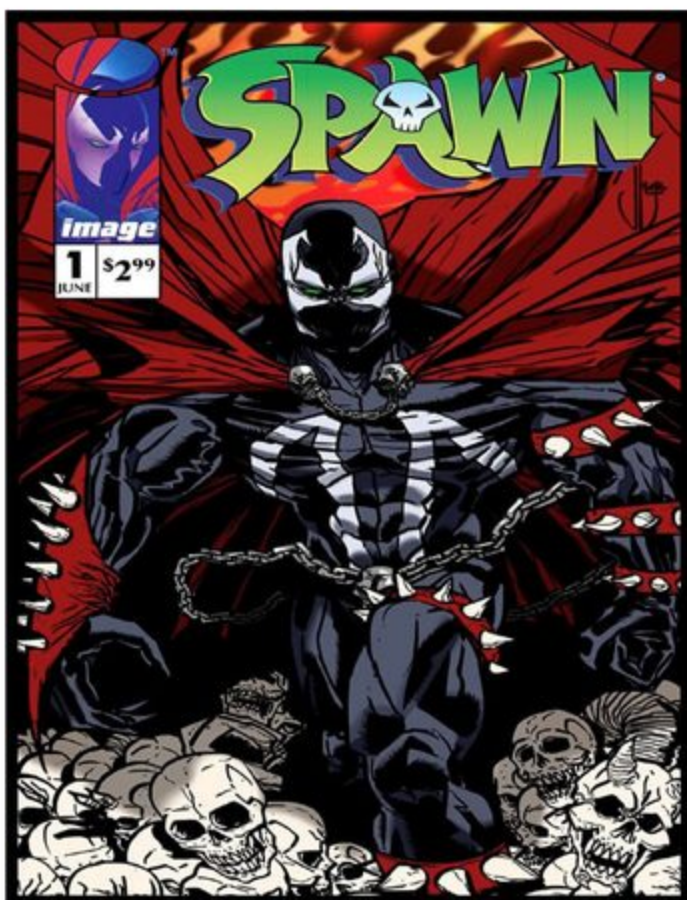
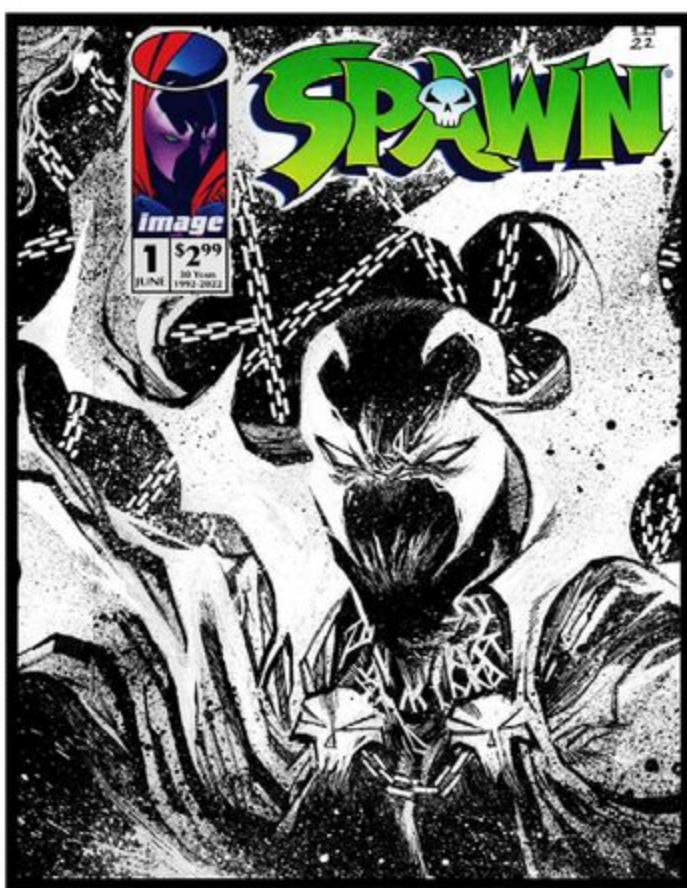
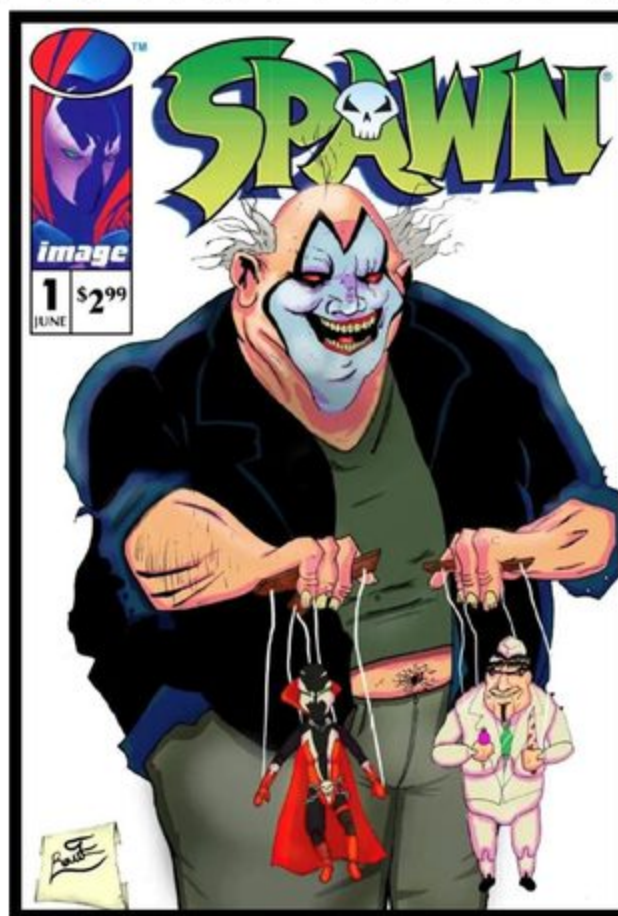
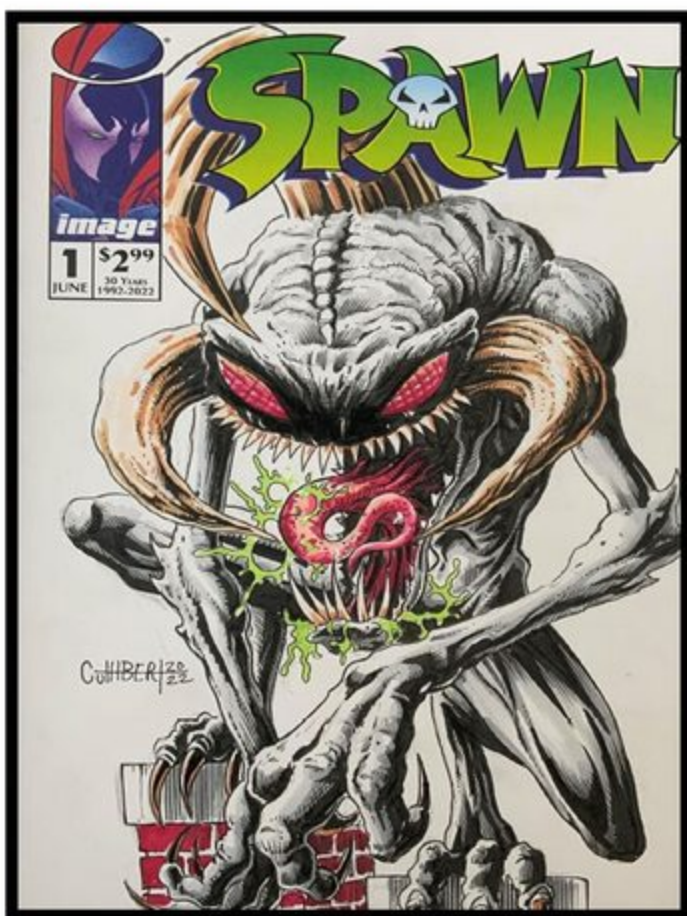


SPAWNING GROUND



PRESENTS:

FAN ART
SKETCH COVERS



Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawningground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S ? UNIVERSE

DON'T MISS THESE TITLES:

SPAWN



**KING
SPAWN**



SCORCHED



GUNSLINGER
S P A W N

ONGOING NOW!

VELVET DEADLY CLASS *ROYAL CITY*
LAZARUS **EAST OF WEST** I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD I HATE FAIRYLAND
KING CITY *SEX CRIMINALS*
KILL OR BE KILLED **CURSE WORDS** *RATQUEENS*

SOUTHERN BASTARDS **SPAWN** THE WICKED + THE DIVINE **BLUE MONDAY**

MONSTRESS **CHEW** *KINGSMAN*
NOWHERE MEN

HOWTOONS THEY'RE NOT LIKE US **SUNSTONE** SEVEN TO ETERNITY

DESCENDER *PAPER GIRLS*

OCTOPUS PIE WYTCHEs *SHUTTER*

TOKYO GHOST THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS **BITCH PLANET**

SAGA *MOTOR CRUSH* **WAYWARD** *TREES*
THE AUTUMNLANDS

CRIMINAL
PLUTONA *LOW*

REVIVAL **NAILBITER**

CAMP MIDNIGHT

SNOTGIRL **ODDLY NORMAL**

MAGE *HINGES*

BLACK SCIENCE

PRETTY DEADLY

THE FADE OUT

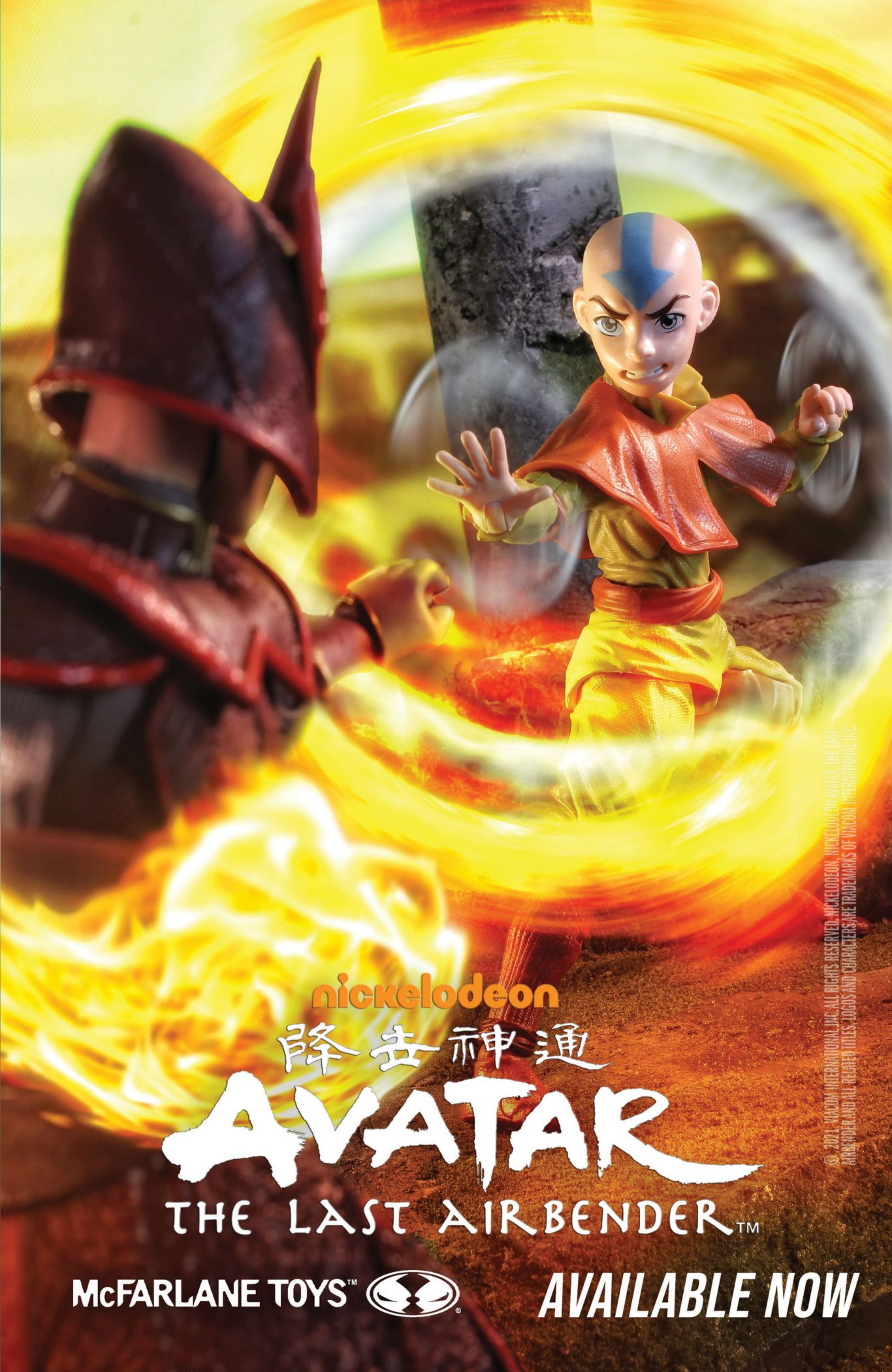
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OCTOBER 2022



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